

Contributions.

TO THE SISTERS OF ENDEAVOR.

L. E. N. GROSSNICKLE.

Since my last communication, I have received one more dollar of pledge money,—only one. Sister Maud Wingard sends these words with the dollar: "I trust that Ashland College will yet be *ours*, but whatever may be its fate, I intend if all is well, to make the remaining payments on my pledge when they become due, to the S. S. C. E., to be used as it sees proper." We hope many others are like-minded, and will send in their payments before we prepare our report for National Conference. Send all pledge money to me, if you desire credit on the pledges, as they are all in my hands. I will then forward to Sister Keim.

I was quite pleased with the Treasurer's report as given in EVANGELIST, No 20. Although thirty one societies failed to remit, yet the aggregate remittance is larger than any we have yet had. Since the report was published, Mexico sent a remittance of two dollars to me, and others will yet send in their proportion. We regret to learn that the Society at Preston, Neb., has disbanded because of opposition. We met the opposition when there, but hoped the little band of S. S. C. E. members might be able to overcome it. A good work might have been done if others had helped instead of hindered. In the last great day when we stand before the throne, who will answer for the talents now wrapped in a napkin, which might have been developed in the S. S. C. E.; for the souls who might have been saved through its efforts; for the work which might have been accomplished "in His Name?" Beloved, let us be careful; if we cannot be earnest workers for the Master through his auxiliary of the church, let us not discourage and oppose others; if we cannot help, let us not hinder.

We have been anxiously waiting the locating of the coming Conference, in order to prepare our program. The location has not been definitely announced in the EVANGELIST, but indications point to Johnstown, and we are preparing the program for that place, putting on those sisters most likely to attend. We hope to have it ready for next week's paper. We trust all who find their names upon the program will at once begin preparations without waiting to be personally notified, as I have more duties, and more writing than I can successfully accomplish, and may be delayed in writing you.

Nothing has, as yet, been said through the paper, concerning a sale's table at Conference, but I have been in correspondence with the other members of the S. S. C. E. Board, and others, and so far as I have learned, all are in favor of having the table at Johnstown. Johnstown will be a more advantageous place for a table than either Ashland or Warsaw. The church is on Somerset Street, one of the main streets of the city, so that we can expect to make sales to the residents of the city, instead of depending only upon those of our own people who attend the Conference. On the first floor of the church is a commodious Sunday School room which will be very convenient for our sales room. Johnstown church has a large membership and an active, generous S. S. C. E., from whom we may not only expect generous donations for the table, but to whom we may make sales of articles contributed by others. Johnstown is a historical city, and this will invite many who would not otherwise attend the Conference. You have read much of the Johnstown flood; attend the Conference and hear them tell with their own lips the thrilling experience of May 30, 1889. A large attendance will mean larger success to the sales' table. But first of all, we must have articles for sale; and these *we* must furnish. Will *you* help? Let the President of each society put this matter before the society and urge each member to prepare some article or to make a contribution in money. Even a nickle from those who feel that they cannot contribute more, would help to swell the aggregate. Much will depend upon you, dear Presidents. I believe there is not a society in the brotherhood, but has members who would contribute articles, and many more who would contribute money, if the President places the matter before them, and invites or urges them to do so. We have two months time to prepare for it. Very few of us are so busy but that we can, by taking care of the moments, fashion some dainty and pretty, or useful articles for the table. Two years ago our table was a splendid success. Last year the result was not quite so good, yet was quite creditable. Let us make this year the best of all. Again I ask, will *you* help?

We shall ere long send out the report blanks for the Conference. We trust the Secretaries are all keeping an accurate account of all the work of the society. Let us have a full report of all meetings, social, religious, business and work meetings; of all moneys earned, or paid in as dues. We had an excellent report last year; let us make it better still this year. Let us each do our duty. I may not be

able to do much, and you individually may not be able to do much, but our united efforts may mean great results.

"Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand,
Make the mighty ocean,
And the pleasant land."

THE JOYS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

THOMAS GIBSON.

That the Christian life is one of intense joy is the universal testimony of the faithful of all ages who have experienced salvation, which is a preservation from eternal misery. Many reasons may be assigned for the exceeding great joy of the child of God. I remark first, that one of the numerous reasons for the joy and happiness of the Christian is that the proclamation of the advent into the world of Him who is "the author of our faith," and "the captain of our salvation," and "the joy of the Christian's heart," were messages of extreme joy.

The angel which the Almighty delegated to announce to the shepherds on Bethlehem's plains the birth of the world's Redeemer, exultingly exclaimed, "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." Luke 2:10. So, then, it was not a message of sorrow—not one of destruction like that brought by "Ehud to Eglon, king of Moab," but it was one of intense joy, yea, one of great mercy. By one single act of disobedience, which was so offensive to the Creator, our first parents forfeited their earthly inheritance and were banished from Eden, and in their exile their feelings and the language of their hearts may be beautifully described by the muse of the poet:

"Oh, how my spirit, when saddened by gloom,
Longs to behold thee, thou garden of bloom!"

The proclamation of the advent of Jesus into the world to restore Paradise, which was lost by an offense, and made it possible for all future generations to have access to the tree of life, which previously had been guarded by angels and a flaming sword which turned every way to keep the way of the tree of life, lest any one should partake of the tree of life and live forever, (Gen. 3:22-24) is profound reason for joyfulness.

Another reason why the Christian life is one of inexpressible joy, is because our redemption has been purchased. Paradise has been regained; our lost estate has been restored; the great atoning sacrifice that Jesus made has satisfied all heaven, and the wrath of God has been appeased and a reconciliation has been effected between God and man. And the great Creator has been pleased to enter into a new covenant with the children of